(b) if so, the priority-wise serial number of these sectors;

(c) the targets for these sectors for the whole year; and

(d) the norms fixed for the selection of these priority sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No Sir. The Planning Commission has stressed for the completion of ongoing projects in all sectors.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Manufacturing of high security number plates

†301. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give contract for manufacture of high security number plates to one company and as a result of which people will have to face great difficulties and exploitation;

(b) if so, whether Government would give this contract to other companies also for convenience of the people;

(c) if so, by when necessary action would be taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) No, Sir. The Government of India does not have any role in awarding contracts for manufacturing of security number plates. This work is to be done by the respective State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Road in West Bengal

302. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the amount sanctioned to West Bengal for development of National Highways in the State during 2002-03;

(b) whether frequent deterioration of National Highways in the flood affected States are kept in mind at the time of allocation; and

(c) the number of culverts on National Highways damaged in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) An amount of Rs. 90.00 crore is allocated for development of National Highways in the State of West Bengal during 2002-2003.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 22 Culverts on National Highways in the State of West Bengal were damaged during the current year's floods. Temporary restoration of these culverts has been done and National Highways were made traffic worthy.

Bridges and Culverts in NER

303. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whethe Government have undertaken any exercise for identifying weak and narrow bridges and culverts on the National Highways in the North East Region in general and Assam in particular;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when reconstruction work of the bridges and culverts identified for the purpose would commence and finish?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are 243 bridges and 355 culverts on National Highways requiring reconstruction in the North Eastern Region. Out of this, 58 bridges and 98 culverts are in Assam.

(c) Does not arise.